

Dear Environment Committee,

I support HB 5293 to end the use of wild animals in traveling shows. Please support this bill and become a co-sponsor.

It's time to stop making animals provide us with entertainment. Wild animal acts are inhumane for the animals and unsafe for the public. The animals are forced to perform under threat of painful punishment, confined in cramped cages and crates as they are transported from show to show, and generally deprived of all that is natural to them. Animals have escaped from circuses, injured members of the public, maimed or killed their handlers, or have been killed with law enforcement's bullets. Despite this danger, wild animals are often displayed near the public in unsafe conditions.

Other states that have banned the use of wild animals in circuses and traveling shows include New Jersey, Hawaii, California, and Colorado. *In all, there are 111 partial or full bans on performing animals in jurisdictions in the US, in 34 states. Approximately, 35 countries have implemented a ban or restriction regarding the use of animals for entertainment.* It's time for Connecticut to join them in making the compassionate choice.

I urge you to support this bill.

Celebrating 25 years of protecting animals 1996 - 2021,
Enid

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Animal protection through humane education and rescue/adoption.
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The Queenie Foundation promotes kindness to all animals through humane education and companion animal rescue/adoption.

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